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The Democratic City and Town Chairmen's Association last night endorsed Noel for Senate, Gene McCaffrey for Congress and Tom DiDuglio for Lt. Governor. Garrahy, St. Germain, Burns and Michaelson, Hawksley were also endorsed.

Two Democratic delegates elected in the primary Tuesday from the First District actually live in the Second District. Germano DiDonato, who ran uncommitted and was elected is also a state employee. Walter Stone, a Carter delegate, lives on Benefit Street, Providence right on the line between the first and second district. He stated that election officials told him he lived in the second district. If these delegates are disqualified, the next person with the highest number of votes will move up to delegate.

Grass roots of arts endowment

In the column that appeared in your May 19, edition, "Senator Pell Criticizes One . . ." George F. Will failed to present a credible argument against Sen. Claiborne Pell. Senator Pell is described as opposed to the re-nomination of Ronald Berman for another four-year term as chairman of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

While Mr. Will devoted two columns to extolling the virtues of historical excellence achieved in many NEH programs, the only reference to the long-remembered Mr. Berman is that he is an outstanding Shakespeare scholar. Are we to suppose that Shakespearean scholarship is adequate qualification to bring us the best in federal leadership

for historical excellence and inspiration?

Some reaction is made of Senator Pell's praise of the grass roots success achieved by the National Endowment for the Arts, with the comment that this approaches "philanthropy." Can we conclude from this that we should praise NEH for avoiding the "grass roots level" where so many of the rest of us must live? After all, who wants to be called a "philistine"?

In this day of Moody crisis and future shock, I think we should praise elected officials who support federal programs that are able to reach down to the grass roots. Mr. Will has made the case, albeit un-

intended, for supporting Senator Pell. Why not oppose the re-nomination of a governmental official who apparently seeks to avoid bringing humanistic excellence to the grass roots of America? Faced with a federal agency that is described as providing elitist isolation from public accountability, I believe both Mr. Will and Mr. Berman should ask themselves what is wrong with the millions of Americans who live in those grass roots.

Kyrus M. McGrath
Washington, D.C.

(From 1953 to 1973, Kyrus M. McGrath was director of the American Association of Museums.)